

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PER-03 A-01 OPR-02 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

PRS-01 IO-10 INRE-00 /067 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9341

INFO USIA WASDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL IZMIR IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS ANKARA 4104

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), TU

SUBJ: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMARKS TO AMERICAN EMBASSY COMMUNITY
IN ANKARA, MAY 23, 1975

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF SUBJECT REMARKS DELIVERED BY SECRETARY
KISSINGER TO TURKISH AND AMERICAN EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MISSION
IN ANKARA MAY 23, 1975.

QUOTE AMBASSADOR MACOMBER: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS MY GREAT
PRIVILEGE TO INTRODUCE THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: MR. AMBASSADOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:
WHEREVER I HAVE APPEARED THE AMBASSADOR HAS WARNED ME THAT I MUST
BE EXTREMELY SERIOUS AND HE HAS PARTICULARLY WARNED ME THAT THE
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FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL HERE, NOT BEING USED TO MY FLATULATIONS,

MUST NOT BE TEASED OR CRITICIZED IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER. SO, I HAVE TO TELL YOU HOWEVER THAT, WHEN WELLS STABLER WAS SWORN IN AS AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN, HE SAID THAT THE HIGHEST PRAISE HE EVER GOT IN THE DEPT OF STATE WAS THE ABSENCE OF ABUSE AND THAT ONE DAY AFTER HE HAD WORKED FOR 24 STRAIGHT HOURS, I TOLD HIM TO GO HOME AND GET SOME REST. HE WAS ELATED THAT I PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HIM. BUT WHEN HE GOT HOME HE HAD SECOND THOUGHTS AND SAID, "WELL, MAYBE I HAD LOST INTEREST IN HIM. SO HE HAD ANOTHER SLEEPLESS NIGHT AND CAME IN. AND ONLY AFTER I MADE HIM REWRITE A TEN PAGE MEMORANDUM FIVE TIMES IN TWO HOURS DID HE FEEL REASSURED AND THEN HE WENT HOME AND HAD A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP. BUT, I KNOW THAT THE AMBASSADOR DOESN'T TREAT YOU LIKE THIS. AND I WANTED TO REASSURE THE FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS THAT ARE ASSEMBLED HERE THAT I AM SLOWLY GETTING HOUSEBROKE,. THAT IS I SIGN WITHOUT QUESTION ONE OUT OF FIVE CABLES THAT ARE SUBMITTED TO ME, AND IN ANOTHER YEAR OR TWO, I WILL SIGN MOST OF THEM LIKE GOOD SECRETARIES OF STATE SHOULD. BUT, SERIOUSLY, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I HAVE FOLLOWED THE WORK OF THIS POST WITH SPECIAL INTEREST. YOU HAVE BEEN HERE AND YOU ARE HERE AT A VERY DIFFICULT PERIOD. I THINK ALL OF YOU HERE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT OUR RELATION WITH TURKEY IS, AND ALL OF YOU KNOW THAT THAT RELATIONSHIP IS UNDERGOING SOME STRAINS AS A RESULT OF DECISIONS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE EMBASSY NOR APPROVED OF BY THE DEPT OF STATE, AND SO YOU HAVE TO NAVIGATE UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AND MAKE PROGRESS IN A COMPLEX DOMESTIC SITUATION HERE AND, I MAY SAY, IN A COMPLEX DOMESTIC SITUATION IN AMERICA.

WE CONSIDER TURKEY ONE OF THE KEY COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE ARE ASSOCIATED AND ONE OF OUR KEY ALLIES. AND WITH THE EXTRAORDINARY ASSISTANCE OF AMBASSADOR MACOMBER, WE ARE TRYING TO GET THROUGH THIS PERIOD IN A WAY THAT HOPEFULLY EVEN STRENGTHENS THE LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP. I READ THE REPORTS FROM THIS POST WITH GREATER CARE THAN FROM MANY, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I CONSIDER THAT THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE HERE HAS BEEN EXTRAORDINARY.

BEYOND THE RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY, OUR ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL POSITION HAS UNDERGONE SOME EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT MONTHS. NO ONE SHOULD KID HIMSELF THAT THE WAY THE WAR IN INDOCHINA ENDED DID NOT MORTGAGE AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY ALL OVER THE WORLD, WHATEVER ONE MAY THINK OR MAY HAVE THOUGHT OF VARIOUS PHASES OF OUR IN-
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INVOLVEMENT EARLIER. BUT I ALSO WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT THE PRESIDENT, THE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION, ARE DETERMINED THAT THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE WORLD.

WE DO THIS NOT OUT OF ANY VANITY, BUT BECAUSE, IF YOU LOOK BACK AT THE POSTWAR PERIOD, BEGINNING WITH THE GREEK-TURKISH AID PROGRAM, I THINK YOU WILL AGREE THAT THE FACT THAT GLOBAL PEACE HAS BEEN PRESERVED AND THAT HAS BEEN DUE IMPOTANTLY TO AMERICAN EFFORTS.

AND MOST OF THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE HAS BEEN IN OTHER FIELDS,
HAS BEEN DUE TO INITIATIVES, OR AT LEAST AMERICAN PARTICIPATION.
FOR US TO WITHDRAW INTO OURSELVES WOULD INVITE
CONFLICT AND CHAOS, AND WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF PERMITTING
THIS TO HAPPEN. SO WITH ALL THE DIFFICULTIES THAT AMERICA HAS
EXPERIENCED, WE ARE DETERMINED TO CONDUCT A STRONG AND A FORWARD-
LOOKING POLICY, AND WE WANT TO CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH SELF-ASSURANCE
AND WITH CONVICATION. AND POSTS SUCH AS THIS CAN MAKE A MAJOR
CONTRIBUTION, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WHAT YOU DO HERE IS
APPRECIATED AND THAT WE DEPEND ON YOU AND COUNT ON YOU. THANK
YOU VERY MUCH.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA04104
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-0247
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750521/aaaaasan.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMARKS TO AMERICAN EMBASSY COMMUNITY IN ANKARA, MAY 23, 1975
TAGS: OVIP, TU, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006